

Appl. No. 10/791,592
Amdt. dated February 15, 2006
Reply to Office Action of November 15, 2005

PATENT

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph entitled: "CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" on page 1 of the specification, lines 4-8, with the following amended paragraph:

-- This application is a continuation of Application No. 09/625,573, filed July 25, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,730,301, which is a continuation of Application No. 08/446,669, filed May 25, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 6,132,987, which is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/US95/00476, filed January 11, 1995, which is a continuation-in-part of Application No 08/182,962, filed January 13, 1994, now abandoned. --

Please replace paragraph 0084 with the following amended paragraph:

-- The antagonist (e.g., monoclonal antibody) is identified by adding an effective amount of an organic compound to the culture medium used to ~~propagate~~ propagate the cells expressing the N terminal domain of MCP-1 receptor. An effective amount of the antagonist is a concentration sufficient to block the binding of MCP-1 to the receptor domain. The loss in binding of MCP-1 to the receptor may be assayed using various techniques, using intact cells or in solid-phase assays. --

Please replace paragraph 0085 with the following amended paragraph:

-- For example, binding assays similar to those described for IL-7 in U.S. Pat. No. 5,194,375 may be used. This type of assay would involve labelling MCP-1 and quantifying the amount of label bound by MCP-1 receptors in the presence and absence of the compound being tested. The label used may, for example, be a radiolabel, e.g. ¹²⁵I or a fluorogenic label. Such an assay is illustrated in U.S. Patent No. 5,194,375 which teaches that preparations of purified recombinant IL-7R, for example, human IL-7R, or transfected COS cells expressing high levels of IL-7R are employed to generate monoclonal antibodies against IL-7R using conventional techniques, for example, those disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,411,993. Such antibodies are likely to be useful in interfering with IL-7 binding to IL-7 receptors, for example, in ameliorating

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toxic or other undesired effects of IL-7, or as components of diagnostic or research assays for IL-7 or soluble IL-7 receptor. --